



NEWS RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --

MUDSLIDE ON SOUTHBOUND I-5 AT TEMPLIN HIGHWAY CLOSES THREE LANES; REPAIR WORK TO BEGIN -- USE ALTERNATE ROUTES

North Los Angeles County – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) announce that a mudslide on the southbound Golden State Freeway (I-5) approximately five miles north of Castaic along the southern portion of the Grapevine continues to necessitate the closure of three lanes of southbound I-5 at Templin Highway. One southbound lane and four northbound lanes remain open to motorists at this time. However, one lane of northbound I-5 will be closed this evening to facilitate roadway repairs. Commuters and truck drivers are encouraged to use alternate routes from northern/central California to southern California.

Caltrans and their contractors, state geologists and the CHP are working around the clock on I-5 to dewater and stabilize the hillside and remove the mud and debris, while maintaining the highest degree of public safety.

In addition, I-5 will be re-stripped in order to provide two southbound lanes and three northbound lanes while the slope stabilization and cleanup work is accomplished. It is estimated that the cleanup and slope stabilization project will last at least three to six months.

U.S. 101 at La Conchita in Ventura is anticipated to re-open to motorists this weekend, which will take traffic off of I-5, which has been heavily utilized since the closure of U.S. 101. The exact time of the opening of U.S. 101 is undetermined, but work is continuing around the clock to open it as soon as possible. Motorists can obtain the latest California freeway and

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highway closure information by calling the California Highway Information Network at 800-427-7623. By entering the State route number, the latest updated information can be readily obtained.

The speed limit will be reduced to 45 miles per hour in the construction zone for the safety of the motoring public. Motorists are also reminded that traffic fines are doubled in freeway work zones.

Closures are weather-permitting and subject to change. Signs and detours will be posted to assist motorists. Additional press release updates will be provided as work progresses. Caltrans and the CHP thank the motoring public for their patience and cooperation during this and other freeway cleanup and improvement projects. **STAY ALERT, BUCKLE UP, REDUCE SPEEDS, AND PLEASE *SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE*.**

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